

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 04755 110300Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----077442 110303Z /75
O 101727Z APR 78 ZFF5 RUEADWW ONLY
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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EXDIS -- DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS 1-2
TAGS: MOPS, PBOR, IS, LE
SUBJECT: ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL

REF: STATE 091063

1. MET WITH WEIZMAN TODAY TO CARRY OUT INSTURCTIONS IN
REFTEL. I EMPHASIZED THAT IT WILL NOT LONG BE POSSIBLE
TO AVOID A FORMAL MEETING OF THE SECQRITY COUNCIL WHICH
WILL ADOPT POSITIONS ADVERSE TO ISRAELI INTERESTS WITHOUT
A COMPREHENSIVE WITHDRAWAL STATEMENT BY ISRAEL. I
EXPLAINED THAT IT WOULD BE EVEN MORE TROUBLESOME IF
ISRAEL DID NOT COME UP WITH A DEFINITE PLAN TO WITH-
DRAW COMPLETELY PRIOR TO THE END OF THIS MONTH. I SAID THAT WE
RECOGNIZED THAT IT MIGHT BE NECESSARY FOR THE GOI TO REFER TO UNIFIL

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DEPLOYMENT BUT THAT ANY REFERENCE TO "CONDITIONS
OR SEMI-CONDITIONS" WOULD BE VERY COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE.

2. WEIZMAN SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD WHAT I WAS SAYING
COMPLETELY. HE WENT ON TO TELL ME THAT HE IS GOING
TO SOUTH LEBANON TOMORROW TO OBSERVE THE WITHDRAWAL
IN THE EASTERN AREA. WHILE THERE HE WILL DISCUSS WITH-

DRAWAL WITH HIS COMMANDERS AND WILL GET BACK TO ME
CONCERNING THE STATUS OF AN OVERALL PLAN ANNOUNCEMENT
WITHIN THE NEXT 48 HOURS.

3. WEIZMAN AGAIN BROUGHT UP THE SUBJECT OF ISRAELI
CONTACT ON A SENIOR LEVEL WITH THE LEBANESE AS A PRESSING
REQUIREMENT. I TOLD HIM WE ARE STRESSING THIS POINT
VIGOROUSLY AND THAT PERHAPS SIILASVUO'S CURRENT VISIT TO
BEIRUT WILL RESULT IN SOME MOVEMENT.

4. AS HE HAS IN ALMOST EVERY MEETING WE HAVE HAD IN THE
PAST TWO WEEKS, WEIZMAN ASKED WHAT THE SYRIANS ARE UP TO.
I TOLD HIM THAT WE CONTINUED TO BELIEVE THAT THE
BASIC MOTIVATION OF ASSAD IS TO CONTROL THE PLO AS
MUCH AS POSSIBLE AND THAT HE MAY EVENTUALLY BE READY TO DO
MORE IN THIS REGARD BUT WILL NOT DO SO AS LONG AS ISRAEL IS IN
SOUTH LEBANON. WEIZMAN SAID HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD THIS
AND RECOGNIZED THAT "THE QUICKER WE ARE OUT, THE BETTER."

5. COMMENT: WEIZMAN APPEARED SINCERE IN HIS ACCEPTANCE
OF OUR DEMARCHE AND I ANTICIPATE THAT HE WILL HAVE SOME
FAVORABLE WORD FOR US BY WEDNESDAY EVENING. I MUST
CAUTION, HOWEVER, THAT SIILASVUO PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN
ANY PLAN DEVELOPED BY ISRAELIS. THE MORE SUPPORT HE
GETS OUT OF NEW YORK THE BETTER CHANCE WE HAVE FOR
WITHDRAWAL BY THE END OF APRIL.

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LEWIS

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Message Attributes

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